

Attorney Docket No. 000594-126753

Patent

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application for:

STEFAN MIERSCH

Application No.: 10/008,603

Filed: 11/09/01

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
PRODUCING METHANE GAS

Examiner: Thanh P. Duong

Art Group: 1764

Confirmation No. 9226

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 5, 2004.

Typed or Printed: Sally HoukSignature: S. Houk Date: 5/5/04

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, and, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), the submission of this IDS is not to be construed as an admission that the information cited in this IDS is material to patentability.

This IDS is being submitted under one or more of the following sections of 37

C.F.R. § 1.97 (as indicated by an "X" to the left of the appropriate paragraph(s)):

X 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). Filed:

- (1) Within three months of a National Application other than a CPA;
- (2) Within three months of entry into National Stage;
- (3) Before mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; or
- (4) Before mailing of a first Office Action after filing an RCE.

37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). Filed before the mailing of a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution.  
And, ONE of the following:

- (1) One statement from 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e);

(e)(1) The person signing below certifies that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or

(e)(2) The person signing below certifies that no item of information contained in this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing below after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this IDS was known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to filing this IDS.

**OR**

- (2) The fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed.

37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). Filed on or before payment of the issue fee.

And, BOTH of the following:

- (1) one statement from 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e);

(e)(1) The person signing below certifies that each item of information contained in this IDS was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or

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- (2) The fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed.

Accompanying this IDS is a list of references and a copy of each reference listed therein, EXCEPT copies of references waived under:

(A) one or more of the following sections of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (as indicated by an "X" to the left of the appropriate paragraph(s)):

- 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(c) as being cumulative (marked with an "\*" on the Form PTO-1449).
- 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d) as being previously submitted in parent application \_\_\_\_\_, to which the present application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

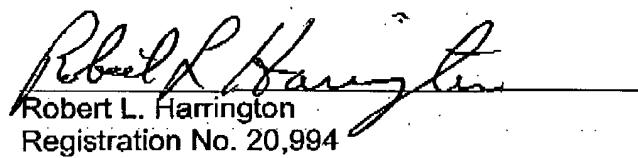
(B) 1273 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 55 as being submitted with respect to an application filed after June 30, 2003.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge shortages or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 500393. A Fee Transmittal is enclosed in duplicate for fee processing purposes.

Respectfully submitted,  
SCHWABE, WILLIAMSON & WYATT, P.C.

Dated: 05/05/04

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of 1

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/008,603
Filing Date	11/09/01
First Named Inventor	Stefan Miersch
Art Unit	1764
Examiner Name	Thanh P. Duong
Attorney Docket Number	000594-126753

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

**Examiner  
Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date  
Considered** \_\_\_\_\_

**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered, include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **<sup>1</sup>**Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). **<sup>2</sup>**See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. **<sup>3</sup>**Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). **<sup>4</sup>**For Japanese patent documents, the Indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. **<sup>5</sup>**Kind of document by appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.18 if possible. **<sup>6</sup>**Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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